

At Ease

THE SCOUT

JULY 31, 2003

SECTION B

SDMA NEWS

Japan’s ‘most-celebrated’ artist featured in new exhibit

■ San Diego welcomes “The Living Line” — Paintings, Prints and Drawings by Hokusai Katsushika”

SAN DIEGO — A new exhibit opening at the San Diego Museum of Art demonstrates the genius of Japan’s most-celebrated and prolific artist, Hokusai Katsushika.

The exhibit, “The Living Line: Paintings, Prints and Drawings by Hokusai Katsushika” — presents 22 original drawings and paintings

from the collection of the Pacific Asia Museum in Pasadena, alongside 37 prints from SDMA’s collection.

The exhibit runs through Sunday.

An adept wielder of the brush and a skilled draftsman, Hokusai produced more than 30,000 sketches, paintings and print designs during his lifetime. The adopted son of a mirror maker, he was born in Edo (modern-day Tokyo). He apprenticed as a woodblock engraver at age 14 — training rare for Japanese artists at the time, but which proved invaluable to him later.

By age 18, Hokusai was already designing kabuki actor prints with celebrated artist Shunsho Katsukawa (1726-93).

During this time, he became associated with the ukiyo-e (“pictures of the floating world”) school of painting, which was renowned for capturing scenes of everyday life in a realistic way.

For the next 20 years, Hokusai designed ukiyo-e prints, book illustrations and fine, limited-edition color prints known as surimono. Toward the end of his long life, he concentrated on painting,

signing many of his works Gakyo rojin, “Old Man Mad-with-Painting.”

Fascinated by all types of painting, Hokusai studied Chinese and Western painting techniques, including vanishing-point perspective. After 1820, he began to produce his most famous series of woodblock prints: “Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji” (1829-1833) and the “Waterfalls” series (1831-1832). Selections from both series are presented in this exhibit, along with pages from Hokusai’s “One Hundred Views of Mount Fuji” (1834-35), a three-volume

collection of monochrome prints. “Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji” marked the beginning of Hokusai’s courtship of the great mountain; “One Hundred Views of Mount Fuji” (undertaken immediately thereafter) testifies to his ambitious effort to capture Fuji from every significant vantage point and every telling context.

Although Hokusai went on to achieve international fame through his woodcuts, the original drawings and paintings from the Pacific Asia Museum included in this exhibit provide a rare,

intimate and immediate look at this artist’s versatile hand — the source of some of the most recognizable and moving images of Japan’s people and landscapes.

Museum hours, admission

■ Tuesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.,

■ Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

■ Entry fees: Adults, \$8; seniors (65-plus), young adults (18-24), students and military with I.D., \$6; children (6-17), \$3.

Children 5 and younger get in free.

Get your voice, your adrenaline and your wallet ready!

Del Mar Season is here ..

Local racetrack shines with past and present glory

ROD DEUTSCHMANN
AT EASE EDITOR

DEL MAR — For the true fan, nothing beats a day at the races. ... nothing ever has.

It was toward the end of the Great Depression. Roosevelt’s New Deal was kicking in, but money was tight.

A doctor saw maybe \$61 a week — a cook, well, \$15 if he

was lucky.

Yet they came. ... and they screamed and they cheered.

Things have changed a lot at the track since racing began, but the enthusiasm and the love of the game remain as strong today as they were when the track opened so long ago.

It was 1933, and the search was on for a site for the

San Diego County Fair. Ed Fletcher, the man responsible for most of San Diego’s highway and water systems (he later became a state senator), was convinced a vacant 184 acres in the San Dieguito River Valley just off the main highway would be the best spot. He knew the fair would

The track is as alive as ever, welcoming the veteran gambler, the racetrack newbie and families alike.

draw thousands, and it needed easy access.

He was right.

Though small compared with today’s edition, the fair of 1936 welcomed a record 50,000 people.

Most of the exhibits were in tents and makeshift halls. But when all was said and

done, one of the most popular attractions of the new fair was the milelong oval racetrack dug into the corner.

A year later, with the help of Bing Crosby and several other community leaders, the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club opened. Crosby was there to greet the first fan through the gate.

The track was hailed as “Bing’s Baby” or “Movieland’s Own Track.” And the stars came.

Many found homes in Del Mar. Jimmy Durante and Luci and Desi Arnaz were often seen at the track. Later, the track closed, but only for a few years. The Marines actually moved in for a bit to train at the beginning of World War II before the facilities were converted to a bomber tail-assembly plant.

The track reopened in 1945.

Today, it’s very much as it was then. Sure the buildings have changed a bit, and parking prices have definitely gone up ... but the track is as alive as ever, welcoming the veteran gambler, the racetrack newbie and families alike.

A beginner’s guide

There isn’t anything more intimidating than going into something

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Vista to be awash in classic cars

■ Annual event offers glimpse of automotive history

BRIAN LAMAY
MANAGING EDITOR

Downtown Vista will go “retro” this weekend — with scores of vintage cars lining streets along the city’s oldest business district while car buffs and revelers are serenaded by nostalgic music.

The event, Vista’s 14th annual Rod Run, also offers a chance to see restored relics rolling through the old-town district, plus an invitation to join a “poker walk,” with local businesses dealing a game of seven-card stud and \$200 offered for the best hand.

The festivities kick off Saturday night with a barbecue and a live band from 5 to 8 p.m.

A ticket to the barbecue is \$15. The poker game runs from 4 to 7 p.m. and admission is \$10.

At 6 p.m., vintage cars, escorted by the Vista Police, will convoy through the Downtown Business Improvement District, which covers about 15 city blocks and is bordered by Highway 78, Escondido Avenue, Vista Village Drive and Pala Vista Road, said Eleanor Hutchins, chairwoman for the event and one of 268 business owners in the district.

Admission to the car show the following day is free. The

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L.A. club to let military ride the rails free Saturday

LOS ANGELES — Military families are invited to a free day of riding the rails and special offers on zoo and museum admission Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Griffith Park.

The Los Angeles Live Steamers Club is extending the offer to show appreciation to the armed forces. The club is offering free admission to its museum to the first 1,000 military personnel in attendance as part of its Military Day, which includes free rides on its 7-1/2-inch-gauge model railroad winding its way along 23,000 feet of track.

The offer includes free admission to the Gene Autry

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Track

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completely lost. Sure, people say there is nothing like a day at the races ... but for the racetrack virgin, it can be a confusing place. The club recognizes this and offers several opportunities to make your trip more enjoyable.

■ **"Track" classes**
All the information you'll need if you're new to horse racing. Learn how to read a program and place a bet, money management, racing tips and other insights, hosted by Tom Connolly. The 45-minute free seminar is held daily (except July 23, Aug. 2, 24 and Sept. 1) and begins one hour before the first race in the Plaza de Mexi-

co by the stage. Free betting guides with valuable information are provided.

■ **A place the entire family can enjoy**
Every Saturday and Sunday is Family Day at the races. Infield attractions include a petting zoo, GameZone, hand-led pony rides, a face painter, interactive inflatables, a giant scramble slide, an obstacle course, a jump, joust, stilt walkers, magicians and jugglers.

■ **Betting fundamentals**
Every Saturday there are free, one-day classes that teach the fundamentals of handicapping. The class is hosted by author and noted handicapper Jim Quinn. Quinn takes you through various handicapping techniques each session before the races, then you will play the races

together with pre- and post-race analysis.

■ **Daybreak at DelMar**
Early risers can catch morning workouts and breakfast in the Clubhouse Terrace Restaurant every Saturday and Sunday during the season (except Pacific Classic Day, Aug. 24). From 7:30 to 9:30 a.m., trackside announcer and former jockey Jeff Bloom will provide behind-the-scenes information for an up-close look at many of your favorite horses while they tune up for their next race. A full breakfast menu with table service is offered in the Clubhouse Terrace Restaurant overlooking the racetrack.

■ **Movies at the Races**
Every Sunday (after the races) the track hosts a screening of some of the best



horse racing films:

Aug. 3 — "A Day at the Races"
The Marx Brothers at their zany best trying to win the big race with a misfit racehorse and Harpo as his jock.
Aug. 10 — "Let It Ride"
A fantasy about a guy with

a gambling problem and a never-ending day at the race when he seemingly can't lose.
Aug. 17 — "The Black Stallion"
Aug. 31 — Sneak Preview
A first look at filmmakers Bill Yahraus and Robin Rosenthal's feature-length documentary chronicling a year in

the life of the racing stable of Hall of Fame trainer Richard Mandella.
Sept. 7 — "It Ain't Hay"
A Damon Runyon story set at Saratoga and filled with funny bits revolving around an attempt to replace a race-

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Track photos by Rod Deutschmann

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Vista

From Page B1

show unfolds from 10 to 3 p.m. and includes live music from The Orbitz, a band pumping out music representing various genres and bygone eras.

The show will include pre-1973 vehicles — everything from a 1928 Model A Ford to a 1969 Pontiac GTO convertible. Lots of other muscle cars will join the GTO, including Chevrolet Corvettes and Camaros, Hutchins said.

On the older end of the spectrum, there's even a 1929 Ford "woody" station-wagon signed up.

More than 100 cars are preregistered, but most sign up in the final few days leading up to the event, Hutchins said. Exactly 279 took part last year — even though only about 60 had preregistered by this time, she said.

The registration fee is \$20. Trophies will go to top entrants in various categories.

Proceeds benefit the Vista Village Business Association, whose aim is to bring more commerce-minded folks into old-town Vista.

Among the projects Rod Run will support — a mural spanning the backsides of about 10 separate businesses along Main Street.

The association sponsors Rod Run and two other major civic events during the year — an antiques fair in November and the Festival of Trees in December. The Festival of Trees showcases Christmas Trees sponsored and decorated by association businesses.

The event includes an arts and crafts fair.

The association's aim in organizing these events is to make more people aware of old-town Vista's services — espe-

cially those who live south of Highway 78 and may not be aware of the throwback commercial district on the other side of the freeway.

In a strip-mall dominated urban setting, many Vistans have little impetus to venture beyond their enclaves, Hutchins said.

"Shadowridge is like its own little town. They have everything they need there," said Hutchins, who opened her business, Hutchins Printing, in the improvement district in 1978.

Hutchins' hope is that other Vistans and folks from outside the city will tap into what the longstanding commercial district has to offer, including performing arts at the Avocado Playhouse and a brand-new movie venue, Kirkorian Theater, scheduled to open in November at the corner of Vista Village Drive and South Santa Fe Drive, she said.

Ramona hosts Country Fair this weekend

RAMONA — A carnival, fun with farm animals, food and entertainment will be on tap today through Sunday in Ramona for the 33rd annual Ramona Country Fair Days.

Admission is free.

Riders at the carnival can enjoy unlimited rides for one price during special hours. The offer is good Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 10 p.m. Ride discount coupons can be purchased through various Ramona businesses listed on the fair's Web site.

Live entertainment will include mexican dancers, a jazz band, rock -n- roll, a harmonica band, drama presentations and karaoke.

The annual parade will kick off Saturday at 9:30 a.m. at Main and 13th streets and continue to Sixth Street.

Fair hours are today from 5 to 10 p.m., Friday from 5 p.m. to midnight, Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

For more information, call 789-1131 or visit www.ramonafair.com.

Track

From Page B3

- horse.
- **Seabiscuit Day**
Saturday the track pays a special tribute to legendary racehorse Seabiscuit. Receive a free Seabiscuit Collectors' Mug with paid admission while supplies last. This hand-painted mug is 22 ounces and 4 1/2 inches in height. Seabiscuit poster signing by Gary Stevens from noon to 1 p.m. in the Plaza de Mexico.
 - **Four O'Clock Fridays**
Every Friday there is a free concert following the races.
Aug. 1 — Ziggy Marley
Aug. 8 — Hoobastank
Aug. 15 — Pete Yorn
Aug. 22 — Common Sense
Aug. 29 — The Wailers
Sept. 5 — Super Diamond
 - **Chili Cookoff**
The Western Regional Chili Cookoff is back at Del Mar Aug. 9. This year will feature a People's Choice category where fans can judge from the chili cooks' free samples throughout the day. Also, take your best shot on the mechanical bull.
Red and green chili cooks and salsa entrants will compete for more than \$2,000 in prizes. Judging begins at 4 p.m. Winners advance to the 2003 world championships.
 - **Violent Femmes**
Following the races on Aug. 23, 91X will celebrate their 20th anniversary with a free concert by the Violent Femmes beginning at approximately 6:30 p.m. Concert is free with paid racetrack admission of \$5.
 - **Doughnut Days**
Everyone is invited to watch the thoroughbreds during their morning workouts Aug. 2 and Aug. 23. It's double the fun with free doughnuts, coffee and orange juice. Fans can meet and ask questions of jockeys, trainers and Trevor Denman, the track announcer. Activities include body art, magic and juggling and prizes for the kids. Also enter to win a Family Fun Pack.
 - **Jockey Photo Day**
Del Mar's jockey colony will be available for autographs and photo opportunities in the Plaza de Mexico on Aug. 30 and 31 from noon to 1 p.m.

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Steamers

From Page B1

Western Heritage Museum and discount tickets to the Los Angeles Zoo, also located in Griffith Park.

Guests must show valid military ID. Military families also will receive free admission this Sunday.

The museum tour includes a visit to the Walt Disney Train Barn, a living showcase of Disney's railroad legacy — which included a railroad in his back yard.

The barn includes his personal railroad memorabilia and scale model railroad displays.

The museum also has a

19th century steam-engine exhibit and several small model trains operating.

The club is private and not normally open to the public, although free admission to the public is offered the third Sunday of each month from 11 to 3 p.m.

Hot dog lunches will be sold on site for \$3, but families are welcome to bring their own food and settle in for a picnic.

The club is at 5202 Zoo Dr.

For more information, log onto www.lals.org.

Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum

The museum's exhibits explore the rich cultural tapestry of the American West by

showcasing the past and present west of the Mississippi River.

The museum extensively covers the Old West, including cowboy and Native American history and lore.

Current exhibits include "California Pottery: From Missions to Modernism," and "Ocean View: The Depiction of the Southern California Coastal Lifestyle."

The Autry Museum and Museum Store are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Sundays and from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursdays.

Admission is free to museum members. Otherwise, it's \$7.50 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors 60-plus, and

\$3 for children 2-12. Admission is free on Thursdays from 4 to 8 p.m.

The museum is at 4700 Western Heritage Way in Los Angeles.

For more information, log onto www.autry-museum.org.

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